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Attorney's Docket No.: 005618.P3653X

PATENT

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In Re Patent Application of:

Dagmar Beyerlein

Examiner: Aamer S. Ahmed

Application No: 10/656,491

Art Unit: 3763

Filing Date: September 5, 2003

For: SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR  
DETECTING TISSUE  
CONTACT AND NEEDLE  
PENETRATION DEPTH USING  
STATIC FLUID PRESSURE  
MEASUREMENTS

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Enclosed is a copy of Information Disclosure Citation Form PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08 together with copies of the documents cited on that form, except for copies not required to be submitted (e.g., copies of U.S. patents and U.S. published patent applications need not be enclosed). It is respectfully requested that the cited documents be considered and that the enclosed copy of Information Disclosure Citation Form PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08 be initialed by the Examiner to indicate such consideration and a copy thereof returned to applicant(s).

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Date

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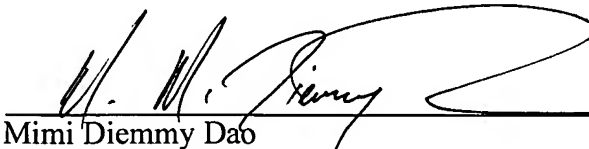
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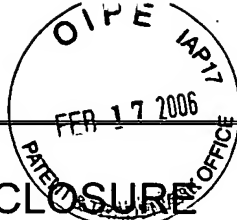
Respectfully submitted,

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Substitute for Form 1449/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

**Complete if Known**

|                        |                   |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| Application Number     | 10/656,491        |
| Filing Date            | September 5, 2003 |
| First Named Inventor:  | Dagmar Beyerlein  |
| Art Unit               | 3763              |
| Examiner Name          | Aamer S. Ahmed    |
| Attorney Docket Number | 005618.P3653X     |

Sheet

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**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

| Examiner<br>Initials* | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | Document Number                          |           | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines,<br>Where Relevant<br>Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|--|-----------|--------------------------------|--|--|
|                       |                       | Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (If known) |           |                                |  |  |
|                       |                       | US-                                      | 4,186,750 | 02-05-1980                     | Bhupendra C. Patel                                 |  |
|                       |                       | US-                                      | 5,292,309 | 03-08-1994                     | Van Tassel, et al.                                 |  |
|                       |                       | US-                                      | 5,656,339 | 08-12-1997                     | Wessel J. Wesseling                                |  |
|                       |                       | US-                                      | 6,546,787 | 04-15-2003                     | Peter J. Schiller, et al.                          |  |
|                       |                       | US-                                      | 6,905,476 | 06-14-2005                     | Dean M. Ponzi                                      |  |

Examiner  
Signature

Date Considered

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.

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